

Passed by unanimous  
Consent 2/17/15

## A.R. 27 final

### In Support of Public Health Week at The University of Texas at Austin

**Authors:** Ms. Caroline Starling (*Representative, College of Natural Sciences*), Ms. Victoria Petruzzi (*Director, Health and Wellness*), and Ms. Kristan Schiele (*President, Texas Public Health*)

**Sponsors:** Ms. Angelina Castillo (*Representative, College of Pharmacy*), Mr. Cameron Crane (*Representative, College of Natural Sciences*), Mr. Donald Egan (*Representative, College of Natural Sciences*), Ms. Chandler Foster (*Chair, Academic Affairs Committee*), Ms. Alissa Osgood (*Representative, School of Social Work*), Mr. Anish Patel (*Representative, College of Natural Sciences*), and Ms. Piper Vaughn (*Representative, University Wide*)

**WHEREAS,** Student Government serves as the official voice of students at The University of Texas at Austin; and,

**WHEREAS,** Texas Public Health is an organization at the University of Texas with a mission to educate the community about public health, and promote health awareness on the UT campus and in the city of Austin; and,

**WHEREAS,** Centers for Disease Control and Prevention points out that health issues including diet, sexual assault, sexually transmitted infections, binge drinking, smoking, and stress management continue to be problems on college campuses<sup>1</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS,** Studies show that a great number of people in the U.S. struggle with health issues including obesity, diabetes, heart disease and more<sup>2</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS,** “The American Public Health Association champions health of all people and communities”<sup>2</sup> and encourages communities to participate in National Public Health Week during April each year to recognize and highlight important public health issues<sup>1</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS,** By hosting Public Health Week, Texas Public Health, aims to inform students about what public health is, how to help promote health awareness, and what health services the University of Texas can provide for students; and,

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.cdc.gov/features/collegehealth/>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.nphw.org/2015>

**WHEREAS,** Public Health Week at the University of Texas at Austin will highlight events such as the *Organization Fair* where health-focused student organizations are invited to present on health issues through informational tabling, the *Public Health Career Panel* to provide opportunities for students to learn about careers in the field of public health, and *Global Health Night*, including performances, the purpose of which is to engage the university community in an informative program that will educate students about health issues throughout the world; and,

**WHEREAS,** The events held during Public Health Week would increase student mindfulness of healthy decision making and foster enthusiasm about public health matters; and,

**WHEREAS,** Multiple institutions of higher learning in the U.S. participate in National Public Health Week including Tulane University<sup>3</sup>, University of North Carolina at Charlotte<sup>4</sup>, University of South Florida<sup>5</sup>, and the University of Kentucky<sup>6</sup>; and,

**WHEREAS,** The Student Government of the University of Texas at Austin promotes the health and protection of all students on and off campus; and therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED,** That the Student Government of the University of Texas at Austin understands the importance of educating students about healthy lifestyle choices and making available resources known to students; and therefore,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That the Student Government of the University of Texas at Austin commends the work of Texas Public Health to spread knowledge of public health and encourages students to participate in events during the week in April; and therefore,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Office of the President, Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, University Health Services, Counseling and Mental Health Center, Office of the Vice President for University Operations, University Residence Hall Association, School of Social Work, and Dean of Students.

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<sup>3</sup> <http://tulane.edu/publichealth/pressroom/tulane-sphm-celebrates-public-health-week-2014.cfm>

<sup>4</sup> <http://publichealth.unc.edu/national-public-health-week>

<sup>5</sup> <http://health.usf.edu/publichealth/index.htm>

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.uky.edu/publichealth/about/news/2014-04-04/uk-hold-events-observance-national-public-health-week>